

Vision *Skip Gray*

I. Introduction.

- A. The disciples were the work God gave Jesus to do. (Proverbs 22:3, John 17:4)
- B. Jesus' other great work was redemption. (John 19)
- C. Paul sought to finish his course also. (Acts 20, II Timothy 4)
- D. We have a curriculum for what we are supposed to do in the lives of others. (II Timothy 2:2, John 17:4)

II. Doctrine of God is important. (II Timothy 3:10)

- A. Paul communicated doctrine and he lived it.
- B. Timothy fully knew Paul's doctrine.
- C. God wants us to be a channel into the lives of others.

III. It is impossible to divorce life from doctrine. We are called to share "life on life."

- A. Our tendency is to close off. (I John 1:1)
- B. We will never significantly influence another until we let that person "handle us."
- C. We need healthy transparent relationships.
- D. We must be both real and available to people.
- E. We cannot bear one another's burdens unless we share them.

IV. Each person should have a purpose statement.

V. Essential characteristics.

- A. Faith. It does not matter how much faith a person has but the focus of one's faith. (Romans 15:13)
- B. Patience.
- C. Love. (I Corinthians 13:1-8)

D. These characteristics are critical because the work is centered on people.

Application questions:

1. How did Paul communicate doctrine to Timothy? How can we do the same?

2. Why is transparency essential for discipleship?

3. Which characteristic would you like to develop most at this time in your life? How can you practically go about doing this? Explain.
